

THORNEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR
1 9 6 8

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

John Bryce Stafford
L.R.C.S. (Ed.,) L.R.C.P. (Ed.,)
L.R.C.P. & S., (Glas.,)
D.P.H.

Surveyor and Public Health
Inspector

E. T. Little, F.F.S.,
M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

TO THE MEMBERS OF

THE THORNEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1968, and in doing so I should like first of all to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their continued help and co-operation, and also to the Clerk of the Council and Public Health Inspector for their support and advice.

I have now completed three years as your Medical Officer of Health and so am quite familiar with the district.

POPULATION

Again, according to the Registrar-General's estimate, there has been no increase or decrease in the population. It remains the same - 2,600 - as for the past two years, although there were 52 births and only 13 deaths in the district in 1968.

STATISTICS

For some years our birth rate has been higher than that of the country as a whole. This is so again this year. Our birth rate is 20.0 compared with 16.9 for England and Wales as a whole. Last year it was 20.4 compared with 17.2 for the country as a whole.

The illegitimate birth rate of 3.8 per cent of total live births shows a welcome decrease on that of the two previous years, when it was 7.5% and 9.8% respectively.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that in 1968 there were no stillbirths and no infant deaths under one year of age in the area. Apart from 1967, when there were two infant deaths, we have had no such deaths since 1963.

The death rate of 5.0 is less than half of that of England and Wales as a whole, where the rate is 11.9. Seven of the thirteen deaths - 52% were due to malignant disease, one male death being due to cancer of the lung.

CONCLUSION

The figures quoted above show how satisfactory was the health of the district in 1968. They call for no further comment.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant

JOHN BRYCE STAFFORD

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

<u>AREA</u>	21,796 acres
<u>POPULATION</u> (estimated mid-1968)	2,600
<u>NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES</u> (April, 1968)	803
<u>RATEABLE VALUE</u> (April, 1968)	£38,346
<u>SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE</u>	£217

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Legitimate	29	21	50	
Illegitimate	-	2	2	
TOTA	29	23	52	

Crude Live Birth Rate per 1,000 home population 20.00 16.9

Ratio of local adjusted birth rate to national rate 1.23

STILLBIRTHS

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths 0.0 14.0

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births 3.8

Total Live and Stillbirths 52

INFANT DEATHS (under one year) N I L

Rate per 1,000 live births 0.0 18.0

Perinatal Mortality Rate
(stillbirths and deaths under one week of age) 0.0 25.0

DEATHS

Males	9
Females	4
Total	13

Crude death rate per 1,000 home population 5.0 11.9

Ratio of local adjusted death rate to national rate 0.55

THORNEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES

CAUSES OF DEATH - 1968

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc	4	-
Other diseases of Blood, etc.....	-	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	1	-
Other forms of Heart disease	2	-
Cerebrovascular Disease	-	1
Other Diseases of Circulatory system.....	1	-

TOTAL ALL CAUSES 9 4

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 - 9 years	10 - 14 years	15 - 19 years	20 - 24 years	25 - 34 years	35 - 44 years	45 and over	Unknown	
Measles	3	4	6	10	10	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Whooping Cough	1	-	1	5	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	4	7	15	10	18	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	59

Laboratory Facilities /
Ambulance Service
Nursing in the Home
Clinics
Immunisation and Vaccination
Inspection and Supervision of Food

The facilities of all the above services are the same as in previous years.

THORNEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
THORNEY,
Peterborough.

July, 1969.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Sir,

I have the honour to present my 14th Annual Report in respect of the year 1968 as follows:-

NUISANCES

11 complaints were received and investigated.

Premises (disrepair)	....	....	....	2
Drainage	....	....	....	4
Offensive accumulations	....	....	....	1
Keeping of animals	....	....	....	2
Noise	....	....	....	2

All nuisances were abated as a result of informal action.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (see also Appendix 1)

Number of factories with mechanical power ...	6
Number of factories without mechanical power.	1
Number of inspections	10

REFUSE COLLECTION

Collection of household refuse is carried out by contract and provides for a weekly collection in the built-up area and a three-weekly collection in the outlying parts of the district. There are no refuse tips within the rural district and tipping is carried out at the controlled tip in Peterborough, by arrangement with Peterborough Corporation.

The amount of household refuse produced continues to increase as per the national pattern, but the service provided appears to be adequate.

PETROLEUM ACT 1928

No new licences were issued during the year, 1 licence was not renewed, and 38 current licences are no in force in respect of the bulk storage of petroleum mixtures at 38 premises. Four inspections were carried out during the year.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Applications were received for Standard Improvement Grants in respect of nine properties, (three less than in the previous year), and grants were awarded in each case.

Grants paid during the year totalled £1, 677 in respect of the following amenities provided:-

Baths 6, Wash Basins 6, Hot Water supply 6, W.C.'s 8, and Food Stores 5.

No applications for Discretionary Grant were received.

RODENT CONTROL

The Annual Return in the form required is given as Appendix 3.

RODENT INFESTATION, (continued)

Rodent infestation showed a marked increase this year, particularly on agricultural land. A free treatment service is provided to private house-holders only, and the eradication measures carried out by the local Drainage Board in water courses and drains has had a marked effect. Continued vigilance and action on the part of occupiers of agricultural land is still most essential to supplement these efforts. All sewers were inspected during the year and found to be free of rodent infestation.

CARAVANS

One new site licence was issued during the year. There are now two sites licenced under the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, each in respect of single caravans. There are no multiple sites in the District.

WATER SUPPLY

Under the provisions of the South Lincolnshire Water Board Order 1968, this Authority ceased to be the Statutory Water Undertakers for the Rural District on 30th September, 1968, and with effect from that date the district became part of the enlarged South Lincolnshire Water Board.

The statistics set out below are not therefore calculated on a full twelve month period.

Bulk water consumption for the district was 21 million gallons, equivalent to 51.76 gallons per head per day in respect of the population served, for all purposes.

On chemical analysis, a sample of water taken in was shown to contain per million parts:-

Total solids dried at 180 deg. C.	...	...	486.00
Suspended matter	...	...	Absent
Chlorides as chlorine	...	...	29.8
Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrate	...	...	Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	0.008
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	0.012
Carbonate Hardness	...	...	255
Non-carbonate Hardness	...	...	101
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27 deg. F. from N/80 KMnO ₄	...	...	0.12
pH Value	...	...	7.3
Appearance	...	...	Clear and bright
Odour	...	...	Normal
Taste and Colour	...	...	Normal
Heavy Metals	...	...	Absent
Free Chlorine	...	...	Absent
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21 deg. C. in 72 hours	...	...	0
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37 deg. C. in 24 hours	...	...	0
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37 deg. C. in 48 hours	...	...	0
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44 deg. C. in 48 hours	...	...	0
Bacillus coli (presumptive) absent in	...	...	100 mls.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE ANALYSIS

This sample of water falls into Class 1 (excellent) of the Ministry of Health's classification of piped water supplies and is also of suitable chemical quality for human consumption, domestic use and dairy purposes. The chlorine dosage of 0.3 p.p.m. should be ample safeguard of the bacterial purity of this water.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Six samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination, and all were satisfactory.

SWIMMING POOLS

A learner pool has now been provided at the Duke of Bedford School, and the water is regularly sampled for bacteriological examination. Samples were also taken from one private pool, and all proved satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE

New Sewage Disposal Works. Work commenced on the new works to serve Thorney Village, and the contract is estimated to be completed in twelve months.

New Sewer - Station Road. This contract was completed during the year.

Sewage Pumping Stations. The modernisation of both pumping stations is now completed.

DISINFESTATION

No call was made on this service during the year.

FOOD PREMISES

All food premises were inspected during the year.

FOOD INSPECTION

No cases of unsound food were dealt with during the year.

COUNCIL HOUSING

No new houses were erected during the year, but an existing private property was acquired for conversion into five one-bedroom flats, centrally situated in Thorney village. The small list of applicants for re-housing is kept under regular review and reveals no cases of urgent need.

Repairs were carried out in 194 properties by direct labour during the year.

PRIVATE HOUSING

Two new estates totalling 70 properties have been commenced. No further sites are available for development within the current Thorney Development Plan, but the existing Plan is currently being re-viewed by the County Planning Authority.

HOUSING (General)

11 Private houses were erected during the year.

HOUSING ACTS

One Closing Order was made during the year, and subject to periodic review, there are now no dwellings requiring formal statutory action.

STREET RE-NUMBERING - THORNEY VILLAGE

Under the provisions of the Rural District Council's (Urban Powers) Order 1949, a re-numbering programme of all properties fronting the A47 trunk road through Thorney village was carried out to achieve a unilateral numbering sequence and to remove many anomalies which had arisen over the years.

Street name plates are also being erected on rural roads in the Parish of Thorney.

BUILDING REGULATIONS 1965

33 sets of plans were deposited in respect of 59 new buildings and/or works. 103 visits and inspections were made.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE

Nuisances	14
Water Supply	21
Factories and Workshops	10
Foodshops	11
Canteens	2
Mobile vans	5
Drainage and Sewage	30
Drainage (New work)	41
Caravans	2
Refuse Collection	2
Sewage works	21
Street numbering	32
Road Safety	1
Rodent Control	63
Improvement Grants	18
Committees, etc.	14
New Buildings	103
Planning	2
Council Houses	67
Miscellaneous	18
Petroleum Acts	4
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act ...	14

NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS

Office	152
Private	31

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I wish to convey my thanks for the co-operation which I have received during the year from members of the Council and staff in all the above work.

E. T. LITTLE
F.F.S., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

A P P E N D I X 1

Factories Act 1961

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspection	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	2	-	-
Factories in which section 7 is enforced	6	8	-	-
Other Premises	-	-	-	-
	7	10	-	-

NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Floor drainage	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
a. Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b. Unsuitable	-	-	-	-	-
c. Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences	-	-	-	-	-

A P P E N D I X 2

THORNEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963
Annual report under section 60 to the Ministry of
Labour for the year ended 31st December, 1968

T A B L E A

Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of Premises newly registered during the year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year
Offices	-	4	4
Retail shops	-	5	5
Wholesale shops warehouses	-	1	1
Catering establishments open to the public	-	1	1
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	11	11

T A B L E B

Number of visits of all kinds (including General inspections) to Registered Premises	19
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A P P E N D I X 3

THORNEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report on Rats and Mice

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 - year ended 31st December, 1968

PROPERTIES	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. No. of properties in district	555	334
2. a. Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	42	21
b. Number infested by:-		
1. Rats	36	15
2. Mice	6	9
3. a. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.	127	34
b. Number infested by:-		
1. Rats	11	7
2. Mice	23	8

